

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

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UP-TOWN OFFICE, BROAD-STREET PHARMACY, 619 EAST BROAD STREET. MANCHESTER OFFICE, 1203 HULL STREET.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1898.

Friends of the Dispatch would do us a favor by informing us promptly of any failure on the part of new dealers, or newboys on railroad trains, to meet the public demand for copies of this paper. Information is also desired by us of the delinquency of any carrier of ours in Richmond, Manchester, or elsewhere. Mail subscribers are likewise invited to report to us whenever their papers come late or irregularly.

THE OUTLOOK.

A little more than two weeks hence the voters of the several States will go to the polls and decide whether the next House of Representatives shall be controlled by the Democrats or the Republicans. The issue is distinct and the consequences vital.

If the enemies of our section of the Union secure a majority of members it will strengthen them for the presidential contest and give them mastery of legislation consequent upon the war with Spain.

It will be theirs to continue in force the war taxes; to pass Colonial laws; to provide fat, new places for their partisans; to enlarge the army and navy as they see fit; to make new provision for the maintenance of volunteers, and to set on foot the hundred and one measures made necessary, or, at least, plausible, by the conditions imposed upon us by the success of our arms.

In fine, if we are defeated on November 1th, our opponents will have the shaping of legislation which may be fastened upon us for ages to come.

It is true the Republicans have not a working majority in the Senate on adequate questions, but they can count upon adequate help there on nearly all other questions. If we lose the House we have little to expect from the Senate on general legislation. But should the Democrats carry the House we would be in a position to demand and secure concessions. We would have a check upon the administration then; a check that would be healthy, not hurtful; one that would keep our country in a conservative course.

For us to lose the House at this election would be to suffer a blow, the effects of which would probably be felt for years to come. The Republicans have the present House, and if they were to secure the next, national legislation, we repeat, would be put into channels from which it would take a long time to divert it.

Our party must make a supreme effort to avert such a calamity. The Democrats in every State ought to do their utmost to win the victory. Here in Virginia we have every encouragement to persevere in our work, and we shall win the plaudits of our brethren throughout the country if we send a solid Democratic delegation to the next Congress.

Let's labor to that end. Let's resolve that the House, if lost, shall be lost through no fault of ours. There is great glory to be gained in this campaign, and much of it may be ours if we throw ourselves into the canvass with our old-time energy and enthusiasm. Make ready! Attend to the work of registration, and then come out in full force on the day of election, Tuesday, November 8th.

HIS "VACATION TOUR."

The Ohio State Journal of Friday, in an article on President McKinley's swing around the circle, or, as it termed it, "vacation tour" oratory, expressed the opinion that his effort at the Chicago peace jubilee banquet "was a fitting climax to the series of eloquent addresses." Our Columbus contemporary then declared that the most notable feature of all the public utterances of the President on this "vacation tour" had been his "intense patriotism." And that at no time had he appealed to partisan prejudice to create enthusiasm. Next, the Journal proceeded to hold up the addresses as models of "diction, sentiment, calm reasoning, and sound logic," and inform us that they had robbed the critics of any opportunity to deride the swing around as a "stumping tour."

We cannot refrain from complimenting the Journal on its article. It fits admirably the occasion on which it appeared. It was printed on the morning of the day the President was scheduled to do Columbus, the capital city of the State of Mr. McKinley and of Mark Hanna, his Adversary.

Achates. As an address of welcome, it left nothing to be desired; left nothing to be said by the municipal functionary who had been charged with presenting the President with the freedom of the city and with assuring him that if there was anything he wanted that he didn't see, all he had to do was to call for it. In this view, the article was graceful, appropriate, and a triumphant achievement in journalism. No doubt the President perceived it long before his train hove in sight of Columbus, and, no doubt, also, it warmed the cockles of his heart.

Cold and unappreciative, indeed, is the man whom such a tribute and such cordial greeting would fail to move.

But if the President has any sense of humor his riddles must also have been touched, and, therefore, he must have been the victim of mixed and conflicting emotions. While it is true that Mr. McKinley has not on his trip been making "partisan appeals" in the sense that that phrase is generally understood, it is none the less true that his "vacation tour" has been a "stumping tour" in the interest of the Republican party, and he could not but be amused at what the Journal had to say on that point. He is junketing as a "war President," seeking to arouse through his individuality as such enthusiasm for his party, and to divert public attention from the charges against his administration in connection with the war with Spain. The contention that he has been on a non-partisan mission is as ridiculous as are the assurances that the War Department investigation was intended to investigate. The object of his mission was to ensure, if possible, Republican control of the next House of Representatives, thereby preventing real investigation, and leaving his party free handed to carry out its post-war policy. When reduced to its last analysis, that is the "vacation tour" the President has been on, his "intense patriotism" to the contrary, notwithstanding.

PASSENGER DEPOTS.

It really seems as though the patient waiting of our people in the matter of passenger depots here were soon to be rewarded. Not only do the Chesapeake and Ohio and the Southern railway companies promise us new buildings and suitable accommodations for the traveling public, but it is likely that the Richmond, Petersburg and Carolina company will provide itself with a handsome Richmond home.

It is supposed that that company will be operated in connection with the Seaboard Air-Line, and it is believed that it will be able to make satisfactory connections here for the North and West. Thus it would become a great factor in our business life. Moreover, it would stir up in other companies a spirit of emulation, which would vastly benefit Richmond as a railroad center.

The Atlantic- Coast Line depot here is all that we can reasonably ask, and the Fredericksburg company is making improvements at Elba, which has become a stopping-place of importance. A dozen years hence the probability is that there will be need of a large, fine, thoroughly-equipped station there.

A city is known, to a great extent, by its passenger depots. Richmond having suffered so long and so greatly on account of some of hers, cannot but feel gratified now that there is a prospect of a change for the better.

NOT EMPTY HONORS.

In announcing the nomination of Mr. C. Harding Walker, of Northumberland, as the Democratic candidate for the State Senate to succeed Judge Mason, the Virginia Citizen, whose editor, Mr. W. McDonald Lee, was prominently mentioned in connection with the honor, does the exceedingly graceful thing. After extending earnest congratulations to the nominee, the Citizen says:

"Mr. Walker fully appreciates the high honor bestowed upon him and we know him as a man who will fully measure up to every requirement—fearless in right, able in council, a man of strict integrity and Christian walk."

And we are glad to see that in the same article the Citizen antagonizes vigorously the proposition so often advanced, that elections to the General Assembly for unexpired terms, and where there is no prospect of service, are "empty honors." Our contemporary holds that the bestowal of any office or position by the people of Virginia is, in itself, an honor. That's the right idea. If the truth of what the Citizen says was more generally appreciated there would be a more widespread appreciation of the responsibilities of serving the people.

In opening the physiological and pathological laboratory of the Victoria University, the other day, Lord Joseph Lister, "the father of antiseptics," took strong grounds in favor of vivisection. While admitting and lamenting the abuses of vivisection in the past by conscienceless investigators, Lord Lister asserted with all the weight of his authority, that there could be no progress in either medicine or surgery without experiments upon living animals. He denied utterly the charge that torture was necessarily a feature of the operations performed, and declared that under the regulations now successfully enforced in England, competent vivisectionists inflicted almost no pain, and yet were extending the field of human knowledge at a rate hitherto never equalled or approached. He respected, he said, the humane feelings of those who objected to this form of inquiry, but assured them that if they knew the truth they would commend and not condemn, since such operations, painlessly conducted, by indicating the precise functions of the different organs, made practicable the saving of numberless human lives that otherwise inevitably would be lost.

It is, of course, expected that the anti-vivisectionists will be heard from shortly in answer to Lord Lister.

Temple Scott, the London correspondent of the Dial, a great New York literary journal, says in his last letter: "A story which is attracting very much attention here is 'Phases of an Inferior Planet,' by Ellen Glasgow. It is an exceedingly striking book."

The London Academy says that the book is "a neuritic novel of the world, the flesh, and the devil by a writer who has made some stir in America."

The editor adds: "It is a gloomy book by a confirmed pessimist, as the title indicates, but one likely to be much read." Yes; it is likely to be much read, though its title is against it. The story is a fascinating one, and the average reader will be startled at the young authoress's acquaintance with the ways of the world—the Bohemian world, especially. That the work displays great power there will be few to deny.

SHIP-BUILDING HERE.

One of the most gratifying signs of business promise here is the ship-building enterprise of the Trig company. From this beginning we may hope that Richmond will develop into a ship-building centre of importance. The United States Government understands the advantage of having a well-equipped yard far enough from the coast to be safe from the incursions of any enemy with whom we may engage in war. As for the depth of water in our river, it is not in question at all in the fulfillment of the present contracts; but it would be involved should we undertake to build vessels of much larger size. We may, however, expect the co-operation of the General Government and Richmond city in carrying out the plans of the United States engineers for deepening the channel, and thus we may readily secure a depth which would remove the only obstacle in our way to success. What has been done in improving the navigation of the Clyde may be done to improve the navigation of the James.

As we have said, we do not need deeper water to float torpedo-boats or torpedo-boat-destroyers, and by the time we get ready to build larger craft doubtless we shall have the requisite depth in our river.

Richmond is not without a record as a ship-building city. More than fifty years ago General Joseph R. Anderson, of the Tredegar-Works, built a steam revenue-cutter for the Federal Government. This vessel was named the James K. Polk, and was launched from ways on the north side of the river, not far from the old brewery building.

At the outbreak of the civil war a large vessel was on the ways of a ship-yard on the south side of the river, near where the fertilizer-works now are. It was intended, we think, to be one of a fleet to ply between Richmond and foreign ports.

Some of our older citizens remember the curious circumstance that when work was discontinued upon that vessel its timbers were covered with rock-salt to preserve them. Later on, when salt became a very scarce and valuable article here, much of that salt was brought to Richmond in drays and ground to the requisite fineness and sold at a good price for family use.

In the spring and summer of 1862 arrangements were made here to build a number of ironclad gunboats for service on the James. The keel first laid was that of the Richmond, the cost of which boat was defrayed, mainly, by public subscriptions. The women of Virginia and many of other States were active in the work of raising funds. Hundreds of them also gave to the cause their jewels, family plate, and heirlooms of value. Fairs and bazars were held, too, to obtain money for this purpose, and in a remarkably short time the Richmond was afloat and armed and armored for battle.

A new Virginia was also built in this city. Indeed, a squadron of ironclads was constructed and fitted out here. Nearly all the work was done in Richmond; much of it by the Tredegar Company. These boats did good service as long as our forces held Richmond, and were blown up with thundering sound by their crews the morning of the evacuation. The noise of those explosions, together with that of the powder magazines, was heard a distance of forty miles from this city.

Some years after the close of the civil war a home company was organized to build a steamship to run between here and New York. This vessel, too, was named the Richmond. The shipyard which was equipped for that purpose was located on the north side of the river a short distance below the shiplocks. In due season the Richmond was launched and put to work, but was acquired (perhaps before it was finished) by the Old Dominion Steamship Company, and is still in use by that corporation.

So we see our city is not without experience in ship-building. And it should not escape attention that in the past we were not anything like so well equipped for work of this kind as we are now. There are here now several great iron-working establishments and some of the best of modern machinery, which can be utilized, if needed, to supplement the plant which the Trig company is establishing on the dock near Seventeenth street.

The men who have undertaken the new enterprise, from which we expect so much, are energetic, capable, and resourceful. Their aim is to establish here a permanent plant, and to this end they are working with might and main. It is needless to say their public spirit is appreciated, and this, we think, will be demonstrated practically when the time comes to consider what part Richmond should take in providing for deepening the river's channel.

The New York Tribune, in an article on Colonial opportunities, says that what Hawaii and Porto Rico want is bona-fide colonization from the States. They want men who will invest money and who will do hard work and who will identify themselves with the progress and the future of the islands. Adventurers, idlers, and tramps, continues the Tribune, may flock thither, but they will not be welcome, they will do the islands no good, and they will probably find no better opportunities for the exercise of their peculiar talents, or lack of talents, than they could have found at home.

What on earth is the matter with the Tribune? Here we have that paper discussing carpet-bagging. Who would have thought it? Really, it would seem that if the Tribune is to be prevented from discrediting the "glorious history" of its party in respect of educating "provinces" for statehood, it must be disciplined.

The Pillager Indians have concluded to lay down their arms, but there is one tribe of Pillagers that we have to fight all the time, and they are the Republican high-tariff, trust-producing, territorial-expansion, imperialist plunderers of the people. They should be made to surrender, unconditionally, the surrender including their present Bog-Ash-Gee-Shig, Mark Hanna.

It is noted that the Republican advance agent of prosperity, at least, is still behind time.

Father of Twins. Employer (to employee, who is a yearling benedict): I understand that you are a father; allow me (handing him an X) to give you this tangible evidence of my congratulation.

Employee (critically examining donation): You owe me ten, sir; I am two fathers.

sentence, "Dewey whipped the Spaniards." The youth walked to the board and laboriously chalked up the sentence as follows:

"Dewey wiped the Spaniards." As the teacher viewed the result he turned to the next scholar in the class and asked:

"Tommy, is that right?" "No, sir," was the unhesitating reply. "Walk up and correct it, then," came the authoritative command.

Tommy walked up to the board, and in crude characters added to the line, "Off the face of the earth."

An Athletic Family.

Matilda golfs and Jane croquets, Johanna bowls-and-arrows, Louisa to the roller craze.

Her muscle-culture narrow. Olivia tennis, Deliaette. To equine habit freezes, Dick cultivates the manly art, Jim rows, and Rob trapezes.

Liveliest foot-balls, Clarence cues, Val copes for polo medals, Seth crickets, Regina canots, And Ma the 'cyclo pedals.

And "Popper" Well, he wrestles. Yes, Diurnally continues To wrestle at the business Of cultivating sinews—

Sinews of life he must accure, As need to the sustaining Of his above-named retinue In their athletic training.

Excusable Cruelty. They had been "keeping company" for eight years, and when he finally proposed and was accepted, in the ardor of his enthusiasm he exclaimed:

"Darling, you are worth your weight in gold!" With almost cruel facetiousness she replied:

"That is saying a good deal, for it was an awful long wait."

Held His Audience. Flasher: I've about made up my mind that Crankman is quite an orator; I heard him make an impassioned speech last night.

Dumbleton: Did he manage to hold his audience?

Flasher: Without any trouble; he was talking to himself.

Locating the Heroism. Questioner: Was that heroic verse that Stanzer read to the Lyceum audience last night?

Jester: No, but the audience was heroic.

Conductors of railways in mining countries aver that almost without exception men make up the fare sex.

It takes a voice of good timber to keep alive the fires of oratory.

A porous plaster is very much like Tenyson's brook—it goes on forever.

The man who "steals a few moments of sleep" is certain to meet with a rest.

FORTUNE DESERTS MR. PROBASCO. Home of the One-Time Millionaire to Be Sold.

CINCINNATI, O., October 22.—Henry Probasco, the one-time millionaire, who, among other things, gave Cincinnati the famous Tyler-Davidson fountain, will be compelled to bid farewell next month to the princely home that has sheltered him. Efforts to obtain a settlement with his creditors have failed, and next week Judge McNeill will be asked to order a sale of Mr. Probasco's home, in Clifton.

Mr. Probasco takes his reverses philosophically, and will move into a humble residence not far from his present home.

The Old Story. (Judge.) It seems to me that Dolly has bonnets and gowns galore, While pretty ribbons and laces She possesses by the score.

Why, then, she scarcely a day that passes But that she rides to town To get the latest in bonnets And also the newest gown.

Now, to me dear Dolly always Looks every thing that is nice, And I've never seen her wear The same gown twice;

For to-day she'll be a dainty, Coy little maid in gray, And then to-morrow, in brightest red, The gayest of the gay.

But whenever I ask Dolly To go anywhere with me, To theatre, ball, or supper, Or perhaps a gay soiree— She never fails to answer, In tones of deep despair, "Please, Jack, don't; but really, I've nothing fit to wear."

—NITA L. PIERSON.

Mr. Wilson Williams, who has been for some time superintendent of agents of the Guarantee Building and Loan Association of this city, with headquarters in Baltimore, has resigned to engage in the investment and real estate brokerage business there on his own account.

DEMOCRATIC CANVASS.

Appointments for Public Speaking in This State.

State Democratic Committee, Room 82, Chamber of Commerce Building, Richmond, Va.

The following appointments for public speaking are announced:

HON. JOHN W. DANIEL, Craig (court), October 25th.

HON. THOMAS S. MARTIN, Brunswick (court), October 24th.

Berry (court), October 25th.

Charlotte (court), November 7th.

HON. JOHN F. RIXEY, Fauquier (court), October 24th.

HON. SYDNEY P. EPEE, Nottoway (court), November 3d.

Greensville (court), November 7th.

HON. JAMES HAY, Luray, October 24th (court).

Charlottesville, November 7th (court).

HON. H. D. FLOOD, Augusta (court), October 24th.

Nottoway (court), November 3d.

Gladstone, Nelson county, November 5th (night).

Poshtown (court), November 7th.

HON. P. J. O'KEY, Halifax (court), October 24th.

Republican Grove, Halifax county, October 25th (2 P. M.).

Mount Carmel, Halifax county, October 25th (2 P. M.).

South Boston, Halifax county, October 25th (2 P. M.).

Virginia, Halifax county, October 27th (2 P. M.).

Oak Level, Halifax county, October 27th (2 P. M.).

Clover, Halifax county, October 27th (2 P. M.).

Scottsboro, Halifax county, October 27th (2 P. M.).

HON. JOHN LAMB, King William (court), October 25th.

West Point, October 25th (night).

Watkinsville, October 25th (2 P. M.).

Tabscoot, October 25th (2 P. M.).

Manakin, October 25th (2 P. M.).

Greensville (court), November 7th.